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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/635,726	08/05/2003	Paul L. Jeran	10982225-2	8866

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MADELEINE ANH VINH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Supplemental
Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/635,726

Applicant(s)

JERAN ET AL.

Examiner

Madeleine AV Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-15, 21-26, 29-32 and 34-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-15, 21-26, 29-32 and 34-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to a telephone interview with Mr. James Shaurette on November 30, 2006.

Response to Applicant's Remark

Applicant remarks that the rejection of claim 11 over the "412" patent is improper.

1. Applicant's remarks have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 11 has been modified. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff in view of Ikenoue as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Stolfo (US Patent No. 5,748,780).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8, 10, 12-15, 21-26, 29-32, 34-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff et al (US Patent No. 5,671, 282).

Concerning claims 1, 6, 29, 31 and 32, Wolff discloses a method of document management, comprising providing a document comprising an original document (col. 3, lines 27-34), scanning the document with a scanning machine configured to determine if the original document has a machine-readable code thereon (col. 5, lines 5-24), the scanning machine being

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further configured to extract at least some information from the machine-readable code if the machine readable code is present on the document (col. 5, lines 4-24); providing a database of information (which reads on the storage of the electronic version of the document) that can be present in the machine-readable code on the original document, the providing the database of information comprising before the scanning (col. 3, lines 41-50 and col. 3, line 65 – col. 4, line 15), and comparing at least some of any information extracted from the machine-readable code by the scanning machine with the information in the database to track the document (col. 3, lines 43-64). Wolff further teaches the step of storing a digital representation of the scanned version of the document together with digital representations of other versions of the document using the database (col. 5, lines 32-44); and determining that the digital representations of the other versions of the document are in the database (col. 5, lines 32-43).

Wolff et al discloses the duplication of the document but does not directly teach the determining whether copying of the original document is permitted and the copying of the original document. However, Wolff teaches, “Each document would include encrypted information (e.g., 2D bar who can make copies of the document. Intelligent copiers would then require an authentication code or card before permitting the duplication of a document. Lists of who has seen/copied the document may also be maintained by the server subsystem.” That would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made as a matter of well known in the art to interpret the above teaching of Wolff et al as the intelligent copiers determines whether copying of the original document is permitted by comparing the information in the document and copying the original document if copying of the original document is permitted responsive to the determining. From the same field of endeavor, Ikenoue discloses an

image forming apparatus such as a printer or a copying machine for producing a copy and a management system therefor which can prevent illegal copying wherein, the information contained in machine-readable code defines if the document can copied, and wherein the copier is configured to copy the document unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code on the document and extracts information from the machine-readable code not authorizing the copying (col. 2, lines 45-56; col. 10, lines 24-67; col. 11, lines 35-48). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Ikenoue to Wolff et al since Wolff also teaches forgery prevention of document reproduction and the duplication of a document with the determination whether copying of the document is permitted (col. 10, lines 50-57).

Concerning claims 2, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 34, 35, Wolff further teaches printing the document with a printing device which prints the machine-readable code on the document, and wherein the printing device is in data communication with the database (col. 4, lines 16-34), (claim 2); the information contained in the machine readable code defines a version of the document (col. 5, lines 50-51) and the scanning comprises scanning a scanned version of the document (col. 5, lines 4-24), and further comprising: storing a digital representation of the scanned version of the document together with digital representations of the others versions of the document using the database (col. 5, lines 32-44); and determining that the digital representations of the other versions of the document are in the database (col. 5, lines 32-43), (claim 21); providing a hard image formed on output media (col. 3, lines 27-34), (claims 22, 23 and 26); the scanning machine is linked with a processor (101B) that is in data communication with the database (101A) an in data communication with a second printer (101D), the processor

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being configured to enable either the scanned version of the document or one of a plurality of other versions of the document stored in the database as digital representations to be printed by the second printer (col. 3, line 35 – col. 4, line 34), (claim 24, 34); printing the machine generated code as the document is generated (col. 3, lines 27-50), (claim 25); storing the machine-readable code as the additional information in the database (col. 3, lines 35-50), (claim 28); imaging the document after determining (col. 4, lines 16-28), (claim 30 and 35).

Concerning claims 3, 4, 7, 8, Wolff teaches the requirement and extraction of an authentication code before permitting the duplication of a document but differs from claims 3, 4, 7, 8 in that he does not clearly disclose wherein the scanning machine is linked with a copying machine configured for copying the document, wherein the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the document can be copied, and wherein the copier is configured to copy the document unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code on the document and extracts information from the machine-readable code not authorizing the copying. Ikenoue discloses an image forming apparatus and copy management system wherein a scanning machine is linked with a copying machine configured for copying a document, wherein the information contained in machine-readable code defines if the document can be copied, and wherein the copier is configured to copy the document unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code on the document and extracts information from the machine-readable code not authorizing the copying (col. 2, lines 45-56; col. 10, lines 24-67; col. 11, lines 35-48). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Ikenoue to Wolff et al since Wolff also teaches forgery prevention of document reproduction and the duplication of a document with the determination whether

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copying of the document is permitted (col. 10, lines 50-57) which indirectly means that the scanner can be linked with a copying machine or the scanner can be included in the copier machine.

Concerning claims 5, 10, 12, 13, 14, Wolff discloses the information included in the machine-readable code includes a storage location (address) of a file (col. 5, lines 50-63); the machine-readable code is printed with at least one of a resolution or tonal (density) difference that cannot be reproduced by the second copying machine (col. 8, lines 18-36), (claim 10); printing the code on copies of the document (col. 4, lines 16-34), (claims 12, 13, 14).

Concerning claim 15, Wolff differs from claim 15 in that he does not clearly disclose the second copying machine configured to identify a user requesting a copy of the document, wherein the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the document can be copied by particular users, and wherein the second copying machine is configured to not copy the document unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code and extracts information from the code authorizing copying by an identified user. Ikenoue discloses identifying a user requesting a copy of the document, wherein the information contained in the machine-readable code defines if the document can be copied by particular users, and wherein the second copying machine is configured to not copy the document unless the scanning machine finds the machine-readable code and extracts information from the code authorizing copying by an identified user (col. 2, lines 46-56). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Wolff by the teaching of Ikenoue in order to prevent forgery or illegal copying since both Ikenoue and Wolff et al are from the same field of

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endeavor, and the purpose disclosed by Ikenoue would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Wolff et al.

Concerning claims 36-42, Ikenoue further teaches that the determining comprises determining only using the information of the comparing; using the information extracted from the machine-readable code and the information in the database; determining without any information regarding an individual attempting to copy the original document; the extracting comprises extracting the information from the machine-readable code of the accessed document corresponding to the first version; using the comparison of the extracted information with the additional information; determine whether the copying of the original document is permitted only using the extracted information and the additional information; determine whether the copying of the original document is permitted without any information regarding an individual attempting to copy the original document (Figs.2-7, 9; Abstract; col. 5, lines 21-37, lines 49-64; col. 6, lines 33-67; col. 9, lines 46-61; col. 10, lines 11-18; col. 10, lines 24-35; col. 16, lines 1-10, lines 33-38).

4. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff in view of Ikenoue as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Stolfo (US Patent No. 5,748,780).

Concerning claim 11, Wolff as modified differs from claim 11 in that he does not clearly disclose that the machine-readable code is printed with an ink that is not visible when viewed with only light in the visible wavelength range, the ink becoming visible when stimulated with light outside of the visible wavelength range. Stolfo discloses a method for producing a highly compressed and accurate representation of an image while preventing electronic copies or

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forgeries comprising the steps of printing a machine-readable code on a document , scanning the image to check for the code wherein the machine-readable code is printed with an ink that is not visible when viewed with only light in the visible wavelength and the ink becomes when stimulated with light outside of the visible wavelength range (Figs.3-4; col. 13, lines 9-25). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Wolff wherein the machine-readable code is printed with an ink that is not visible when viewed with only light in the visible wavelength range in order to easily hide the machine readable image as disclosed by Stolfo (col. 15, lines 34-59).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

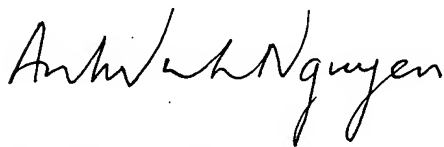
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Madeleine AV Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272-7466. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday 12:30-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Madeleine AV Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625

December 6, 2006